



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Arkansas Catfish Production Report
Released January 28, 2011



Cooperating with the University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture
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This report contains the results from the *Catfish Growers Survey* conducted during the first half of January, 2011. The data are posted on our Web site at http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Arkansas/Publications/Statistical_Bulletin/Catfish/index.asp and in a more detailed report at the Internet address above. Thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire or interview for this survey.

Foodsize Catfish Inventory Down 35 Percent

Arkansas catfish producers had 20.8 million foodsize fish on January 1, 2011, down 35 percent from a year ago. The number of large foodsize fish on hand totaled 440,000, down 63 percent from January 1, 2010. Medium foodsize inventory, at 4.98 million, was down 56 percent from last year; while, small foodsize, at 15.4 million, was down 21 percent from January 1, 2010. Arkansas catfish growers had sales of \$40.8 million during 2010, down 9 percent from 2009.

Catfish: Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size, Arkansas, January 1, 2010-2011

Type & Size	Number			Total Live Weight			Average Live Weight	
	2010	2011	% Change from '10	2010	2011	% Change from '10	2010	2011
	1,000 Fish			1,000 Pounds			Pounds per Fish	
Broodfish	50	45	- 10	212	183	- 14	4.2	4.1
All Foodsize	31,890	20,820	- 35	45,700	26,890	- 41	-	-
Large	1,190	440	- 63	4,300	1,490	- 65	3.6	3.4
Medium	11,300	4,980	- 56	21,700	9,500	- 56	1.9	1.9
Small	19,400	15,400	- 21	19,700	15,900	- 19	1.0	1.0
							Pounds per 1,000 Fish	
All Stockers	52,200	52,100	- <0.5	10,800	10,350	- 4	-	-
Large	19,100	19,600	+ 3	7,550	7,350	- 3	395	375
Small	33,100	32,500	- 2	3,250	3,000	- 8	98.2	92.3
Fingerlings	44,200	82,600	+ 87	1,700	3,350	+ 97	38.5	40.6

¹ Revised.

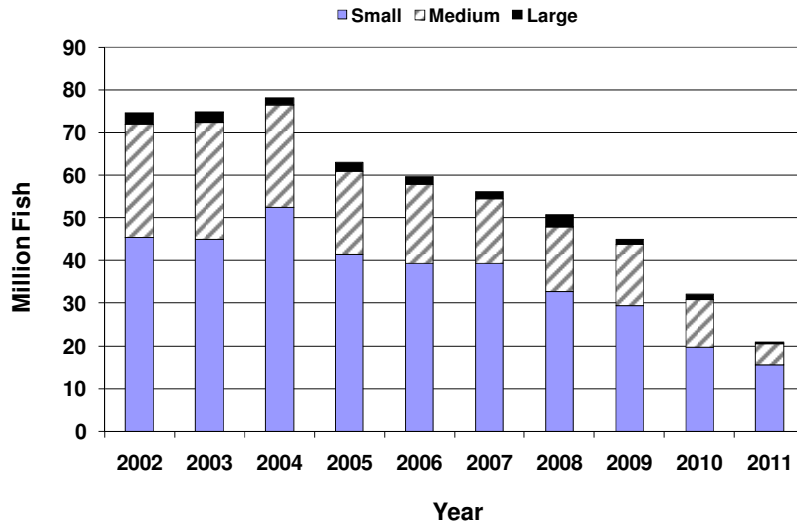
Catfish: Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size, U.S., January 1, 2010-2011

Type & Size	Number			Total Live Weight			Average Live Weight	
	2010	2011	% Change from '10	2010	2011	% Change from '10	2010	2011
	1,000 Fish			1,000 Pounds			Pounds per Fish	
Broodfish	536	497	- 7	2,959	2,568	- 13	5.5	5.2
All Foodsize	269,390	176,502	- 34	376,642	243,727	- 35	-	-
Large	8,570	6,212	- 28	29,712	20,923	- 30	3.5	3.4
Medium	91,790	54,330	- 41	175,650	105,824	- 40	1.9	1.9
Small	169,030	115,960	- 31	171,280	116,980	- 32	1.0	1.0
							Pounds per 1,000 Fish	
All Stockers	366,090	381,360	+ 4	87,847	85,413	- 3	-	-
Large	152,290	158,470	+ 4	66,550	63,366	- 5	437	400
Small	213,800	222,890	+ 4	21,297	22,047	+ 4	99.6	98.9
Fingerlings	429,590	568,990	+ 32	15,045	22,637	+ 50	35.0	39.8

Definitions Used for Catfish Production

- Broodfish: Fish kept for egg production, including males, 3 to 10 lbs., or 4 to 6 years of age.
- Large foodsize: Over 3 lbs. per fish.
- Medium foodsize: 1 ½ to 3 lbs. per fish.
- Small foodsize: ¾ to 1 ½ lbs. per fish.
- Large Stockers: 180 to 750 lbs. per 1,000 fish.
- Small Stockers: 60 to 180 lbs. per 1,000 fish or over 6" in length.
- Fingerlings: 2 to 60 lbs. per 1,000 fish or 2" to 6" in length.

Arkansas Foodsize Catfish Inventory by Size, January 1, 2002-2011



Catfish: Sales by Size Category, Arkansas, 2009-2010

Size Category	Number		Live Weight Sold				Average Price per Pound		Total Sales	
			Average Weight		Total					
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000 Fish		Pounds per Fish		1,000 Pounds		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Foodsize	31,200	26,000	1.9	1.9	58,100	49,400	0.74	0.77	42,994	38,038
Fingerlings	29,100	(D)	Pounds per 1,000 Fish (D)		272	(D)	1.99 (D)		541	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Catfish: Water Surface Acres, Arkansas and U.S., January 1, 2010-2011

Item	Unit	Arkansas			United States		
		2010	2011	% Change from '10	2010	2011	% Change from '10
Water Surface Used for Catfish Production	Acres	19,200	13,200	- 31	115,100	99,600	- 13
For Foodsize	Acres	16,600	10,500	- 37	97,000	80,800	- 17
For Fingerlings	Acres	2,200	2,000	- 9	14,210	13,260	- 7
For Broodfish	Acres	250	280	+ 12	2,240	2,240	0